

School Building Authority of West Virginia

2300 Kanawha Boulevard, East • Charleston, West Virginia 25311-2306 • Office Number (304) 558-2541 • FAX Number (304) 558-2539

MEMORANDUM

TO:

County Superintendents and 3% Grant Recipients

FROM: Mr. David Sneed

Executive Director

DATE: February 1, 2016

RE:

MIP and 3% Funding Cycle

Award Date Revision

On January 29, 2016 the Authority held Special Meeting to discuss the recent bond sale and to discuss the revision of the Major Improvement and 3% Statewide Grant funding date. Consideration of moving the funding schedule was prompted by 2016 and pending 2017 budget cuts that will affect the amount of available funds the Authority will have this year as well as next year for projects. Additionally, we anticipate the introduction of Legislation that may affect the eligibility of counties for MIP funding. Specifically, over the past few years several counties of been disqualified from receiving MIP funding consideration due to the maintenance expenditure calculation performed by the West Virginia Department of Education. Current Legislation requires this calculation to be performed and it has been used in the past to determine if counties are budgeting adequate local funding for maintenance each year. Unfortunately, this calculation has had an unintended consequence that has disqualified counties that have been able to reduce costs and provide the same or improved services. We are working with members of both the House and Senate to introduce Legislation that will set in place a process that will correct this problem and still provide oversight through the SBA and the State Department of Education Office of Facilities.

During the January 29, 2016 meeting the Authority authorized the SBA staff to take action to move the 2016 and all future MIP and 3% funding cycles to the June Quarterly Meeting of the Authority. This action delays the 2016 funding of MIP and 3% projects until the June meeting and allows us to consider additional county projects that may become eligible if the MIP Legislation is revised. Additionally, the 2016 budget cuts reduced the MIP and 3% funding available for projects this year. This limited amount of funding was significantly affecting our ability to address the many MIP needs you have identified in your schools. To address this year's cuts the Authority also approved the combining of the 2016 and 2017 MIP funding. Based on the budget bill introduced this year we now anticipate having

\$7,000,000 in MIP funding by waiting until June 2016 to award projects. We anticipate approximately \$2,418,684 in 3% funding when we fund these projects in June as well.

We apologize for any confusion this may be causing but we feel the end may justify the means if we delay the funding cycle. We were not 100% sure of the amount of the budget cut we were going to experience until the bill was introduced during the first week of the Legislative session. As a result, we could not recommend any action be taken by the Authority until our meeting could be scheduled last Friday.

As you are aware, the 2016 MIP and 3% projects were due in the SBA office by February 1, 2016. While the 3% funding is now set, given the chain of events that have now occurred and our desire to be fair with everyone that would like to request MIP funding this year we offer the following assistance. If the increased funding that may be available, the pending approval of the revised legislation that might qualify your county for funding or the postponed funding date alters your decision to request MIP funding this year we will allow you to submit your 2016 MIP funding request on or before April 1, 2016. Your 3% project may also be submitted or altered should you desire by this same date of April 1, 2016. We have received several 2016 MIP and 3% projects already and others may be in the mail to our office. If you have sent your project to our office and you would like to revise your submission you may also do so provided you notify your SBA representative and we receive you revised project by the April 1, 2016 deadline. MIP and 3% Projects received after the April 1, 2016 deadline will not be considered for funding by the Authority this year. Realizing this may be confusing please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions you may have regarding this matter.

DAS/tab

cc: The staff of the SBA Dr. Kathy D'Antoni